

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Pending Claims

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing a reclosable bag, comprising the following steps:

(a) folding a web of bag making material film so that a first portion of said web on one side of said fold has an extension portion that extends beyond an edge of a second portion of said folded web;

(b) joining a back of a first flangeless zipper strip to one of said first and second web portions before or after said folding step;

(c) joining a back of a second flangeless zipper strip to the other of said first and second web portions before or after said folding step;

(d) joining confronting portions of said first and second web portions along a band-shaped zone extending generally parallel to and proximal to said edge of said second portion of said folded web;

(e) removing the folded edge of said web after steps (a), (b) and (c) have been performed; and

(f) inserting a slider on said first and second flangeless zipper strips after steps (a), (b), (c) and (e) have the folded edge has been removed, whereby a portion of said first web portion that is joined to said back of said first flangeless zipper strip is disposed between said first flangeless zipper strip and a first side wall of said slider, and a portion of said second web portion that is joined to said back of said second flangeless zipper strip is disposed

between said second flangeless zipper strip and a second side wall of said slider.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein said removing step comprises cutting respective portions of said first and second web portions adjacent said first and second flangeless string zipper strips respectively.

Claim 18 (Original): The method as recited in claim 16, further comprising the step of forming first and second discontinuities in said extension portion of said web before or after said folding step.

Claim 19 (Original): The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said discontinuities are holes.

Claim 20 (Original): The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said discontinuities are slits.

Claim 21 (Original): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein step (a) is performed after step (b) and before step (c), further comprising the step of interlocking said first and second flangeless zipper strips prior to step (b).

Claim 22 (Original): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein steps (b) and (c) are performed after step (a), further comprising the step of interlocking said first and second flangeless zipper strips and inserting said interlocked first and second flangeless zipper strips between said first and second web portions prior to steps (b) and (c).

Claim 23 (Original): The method as recited in claim 16, wherein steps (b) and (c) are performed before step (a), further comprising the step of interlocking said first and second flangeless zipper strips after step (a).

Claims 24-31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A method of manufacturing a reclosable bag, comprising the following steps:

(a) arranging and sealing bag making film material to form a receptacle and a flap connected to said receptacle, said receptacle having an interior volume and a mouth for accessing said interior volume, and said flap extending beyond a boundary of said receptacle located opposite to and distant from said mouth;

(b) prior to completion of said receptacle, joining respective portions of said bag making film material, that will form said mouth of said receptacle, to respective backs of first and second flangeless zipper strips;

(c) aligning said first and second flangeless zipper strips with each other; and

(d) after steps (b) and (c), mounting a slider onto said aligned first and second flangeless zipper strips with said respective portions of said bag making film material ~~being disposed~~ passing between respective side walls of said slider and respective backs of said first and second flangeless zipper strips.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The method as recited in claim 32, wherein step (a) comprises the following steps:

folding a web of bag making film material along a fold line to form a U- or V-shaped profile comprising first and second legs;

joining respective portions of said first and second legs of said web to form said receptacle, other respective portions of said first and second legs forming said respective opposing portions joined to said first and second flangeless

zipper string zipper strips.

Claim 34 (Original): The method as recited in claim 33, wherein said first and second legs are band-sealed together along a line parallel to and spaced apart from said fold line.

Claim 35 (Original): The method as recited in claim 33, wherein said second leg is longer than said first leg, said flap comprising a portion of said second leg that extends beyond an edge of said first leg.

Claim 36 (Original): The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising the step of trimming respective portions of said first and second legs connected by said fold line.

Claim 37 (Original): The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising the step of forming at least one discontinuity in said flap.

Claim 38 (Original): The method as recited in claim 33, further comprising the step of forming a line of weakened tear resistance in said flap.